

REMARKS

Restriction requirement

Responsive to the restriction notice dated March 8, 2005 received in the above application, Applicant hereby elects the claims of species A (claims 1-4 and 7-10) to be maintained in this application for examination.

Amendment of the claims

Claims 5, 6, and 11, relating to the non-elected species, have been cancelled. Additional amendments are made to claim 1 to more accurately define the present invention. The additional amendments to claim 1 clarify that the tubular guide element may be positioned to bear against teeth. Support for this limitation is found in the specification in the last paragraph of page 5 and continuing onto page 6, and in Figures 3A-3C. Additionally, it is recited that gripping means are connected to cleaning means within the tubular guide element, and that the cleaning means are movable between a position entirely within the tubular guide element and a position entirely outside of the tubular guide element. Support for these aspects of the invention is found in the specification generally at pages 5 and 6, and in the Figures.

Conclusion

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the Applicant's attorney, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown.

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1176
Phone: (703) 683-0500

Respectfully submitted,



Date: July 7, 2005

JUSTIN J. CASSELL
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 46,205